From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech, Presented by Autos2050: Spotify Files Antitrust Complaint Against Apple in Europe
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 5:26:59 AM

By Sam Sabin

Top Stories

- Spotify Technology SA filed an antitrust complaint against Apple Inc. in the Europe Union allegeding the company has abused its control over which apps appear in its App Store in recent years, including by restricting which music streaming services compete with Apple's own rival service. The complaint alleges that Apple effectively forces rival subscription services to use the company's payment system, which takes a 30 percent cut of transactions, in order to market themselves to users, which Spotify claims does not happen with Google's mobile app store. (The Wall Street Journal)

- Democratic presidential candidates Sens. Amy Klobuchar (Minn.) and Elizabeth Warren (Mass.), former Rep John Delaney (Md.) and former Housing Secretary Julián Castro are expected to debate monopolies and

antitrust enforcement in rural Iowa later this month. Every declared Democratic candidate was invited, according to an events spokesperson. (Rolling Stone)

- Sens. Ed Markey (D-Mass) and Mike Lee (R-Utah) called on the Department of Homeland Security in a joint statement to pause a program that would use facial recognition technology on "100 percent of all international passengers" in the country's top 20 airports by 2021. (BuzzFeed News)

Chart Review

48 billion robocalls annoyed Americans last year
Axios

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

03/13/2019

SXSW 2019

House Science, Space and Technology Commmittee's hearing on future visions and current issues with America in space	10:00 am
Senate Commerce Committee hearing on U.S. and space	10:00 am

Washington Space Business Roundtable's panel on small satellite launch service providers	11:30 am
Senate IP Subcommittee hearing with Patent and Trademark Office Director Andrei Iancu	2:30 pm
Senate Small Business Committee's hearing on cyber crime threat to small business	2:30 pm

03/14/2019

SXSW 2019

House Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee's hearing on safe vehicle technology and drunk driving	10:00 am
Brookings Institution's fireside chat with FTC Commissioner Noah Joshua Phillips on online consumer privacy and emerging tech	11:00 am
American Antitrust Institute's competition roundtable on "Challenging Monopolies in Court - Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?"	1:00 pm

03/15/2019

SXSW 2019

FCC's March open commission meeting	10:30 am
Technology Policy Institute's panel discussion on "Blockchain 201: Policy Questions for 2019"	12:30 pm

03/19/2019

TIA Policy Forum co-hosted with Samsung on industry innovations and government partnerships in managing the ICT supply chain	12:00 pm

View full calendar

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General

Democratic lawmakers rip into T-Mobile CEO over Trump hotel stays
Brian Fung, The Washington Post

Democratic lawmakers on Tuesday tore into a visibly uncomfortable John Legere, the chief executive of T-Mobile, over his decision to stay at President Trump's hotel in Washington while his company seeks government approval for a $26 billion merger with Sprint.

Congress at SXSW: Yes, we're dumb about tech, and here's what we should do
Sam Machkovech, Ars Technica

Some legislators have an easier time attracting a sexy headline at an arts-and-tech conference like South By Southwest. Famous Democrats like Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Sen. Elizabeth Warren did just that over the weekend with their respective, radical suggestions about government oversight.

TPG's Bill McGlashan is put on indefinite leave after being charged in a giant college admissions cheating scandal
Connie Loizos, TechCrunch

Bill McGlashan, who built his career as a top investor at the private equity firm TPG, has been put on "indefinite administrative leave, effective immediately," says the firm after McGlashan was caught up in what the Justice Department said today is the largest college admissions scandal it has ever prosecuted.

BlackBerry launches new US subsidiary in push to earn more federal contracts
Jacqueline Thomsen, The Hill

BlackBerry on Tuesday officially opened a new D.C.-based branch aimed at helping the tech company secure more contracts with the federal government. The new subsidiary, known as BlackBerry Government Solutions, is largely focused on the firm's projects that fall under the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP), the government-wide program on cloud security that companies must comply with in order to earn federal contracts.

Bipartisan law pushes use of drones for fighting wildfires
Tajha Chappellet-Lanier, FedScoop

President Trump signed a bipartisan bill into law Tuesday that pushes federal agencies to explore increased use of drones in managing and fighting wildfires. Among many other things, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act directs the secretary of the Department of the Interior to set up or expand a "research, development, and testing program" to examine the use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS, or drones) "across the full range of wildland fire management operations."

When Elon Musk Tried to Destroy a Tesla Whistleblower
Matt Robinson and Zeke Faux, Bloomberg

It started with a Twitter meltdown and ended with a fake mass shooter. A former security manager says the company also spied and spread misinformation.

Stocks Mixed as Traders Mull Growth; Pound Climbs: Markets Wrap
Robert Brand, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures edged higher alongside European stocks and Asian shares declined on Wednesday as investors weighed the latest clues on the strength of the global economy. The pound gained before the next major Brexit vote.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

The gigantism of big tech forces a fresh look at antitrust
Dean DeChiaro, Roll Call

Increased public concern over the reach of large technology companies, bipartisan support for thinking anew about how to regulate big business, and ambitious policy proposals ahead of the 2020 presidential election are driving a new conversation over antitrust enforcement in the United States.

For tech, antitrust is a fatal distraction
Scott Rosenberg and Ina Fried, Axios

When leaders in Silicon Valley assess the new antitrust fever among candidates

and policymakers, the prospect of corporate breakups isn't their biggest worry. Instead, insiders fear missing the next cycle of industry change if they're distracted and hobbled by antitrust conflicts.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

America's Undersea Battle With China for Control of the Global Internet Grid
Jeremy Page et al., The Wall Street Journal

A new front has opened in the battle between the U.S. and China over control of global networks that deliver the internet. This one is beneath the ocean.

GOP pushes back on net neutrality bill at testy hearing
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

GOP lawmakers pushed back on Democrats' proposed net neutrality bill at a testy hearing on Tuesday, calling the legislation "extreme" and overly partisan, while saying it would be dead on arrival in the Senate.

Schiff Has 'Profound Concern' Over Huawei Role in 5G Networks
Billy House, Bloomberg

House Intelligence Chairman Adam Schiff said he has "profound concern" about Chinese networking giant Huawei Technologies Co. and the security and privacy threats that integrating its equipment across 5G mobile networks would incur.

Germany asserts independence after U.S. warning on Huawei
Andrea Shalal, Reuters

Germany will define its own security standards for a new 5G mobile network, Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Tuesday, after Washington said it would scale back data-sharing with Berlin if China's Huawei was allowed to participate.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

U.S. sees unilateral taxes on web giants as 'discriminatory':

Treasury official
Leigh Thomas, Reuters

The United States thinks a French plan for a tax specifically targeting digital companies would be discriminatory against its businesses, a senior U.S. Treasury official said on Tuesday. France and Britain as well as Italy and Spain are pushing ahead with plans for such taxes at the national level after EU countries failed to reach an agreement for the bloc as a whole.

As Pinterest and Facebook move to shut down anti-vaxxers, Twitter's Jack Dorsey appeared on a podcast with one
Kurt Wagner, Recode

Facebook, Pinterest, YouTube and Amazon are all working to keep dangerous anti-vaccination rumors and hoaxes from getting attention. Twitter's Jack Dorsey, unintentionally it seems, is doing the opposite.

Uber to pay $20 million to settle long-running legal battle with drivers
Heather Somerville, Reuters

Uber Technologies Inc has agreed to pay $20 million to settle a lawsuit brought by drivers nearly six years ago, according to court filings, resolving one of its many legal battles with drivers ahead of a hotly anticipated initial public offering this year.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Facial recognition's 'dirty little secret': Millions of online photos scraped without consent
Olivia Solon, NBC News

People's faces are being used without their permission, in order to power technology that could eventually be used to surveil them, legal experts say.

Cyber and physical threats featured in 2020 budget requests
Katherine Tully-McManus, Roll Call

The number of threats aimed at lawmakers has increased threefold over the past few years, the top security official in the House said Tuesday. Security

concerns, both physical and cyber, are top priorities for Capitol Hill spending heading toward fiscal 2020.

Google takes heat over location tracking in privacy debate
Harper Neidig, The Hill

A top Google executive faced tough questions from a Senate committee on Tuesday about the company's data collection practices as lawmakers vow to impose tougher privacy regulations on tech giants. The Senate Judiciary Committee grilled Will DeVries, senior policy counsel at Google, over the company's user location tracking and data practices.

US Army secretary sees A.I. and robotics improving 'survivability and lethality on the battlefield'
Jessica Bursztynsky, CNBC

The U.S. Army is looking to advance its technology and put its focus on future conflicts, as it presents its colossal budget request to Congress. "This is a big day for the Army," U.S. Army Secretary Mark Esper told CNBC on Tuesday.

Backdoor discovered in Swiss voting system would have allowed hackers to alter votes
Jeff Stone, CyberScoop

A team of cybersecurity researchers on Tuesday revealed technical flaws in the Swiss government's electronic voting system that could enable outsiders to replace legitimate votes with fraudulent ones.

A Message from Autos2050®:

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Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Silicon Valley Must Stop Consumerizing and Start Empowering
Peter Rex, Morning Consult

Silicon Valley should epitomize the American ideal: our can-do mindset and entrepreneurial aspirations. Yet the past year's bipartisan anger at Facebook reflects a profound skepticism of America's tech giants.

Getting real about Huawei
Mike Rogers, The Hill

It is time that we collectively had a reality check on Huawei, 5G, and the security of American telecommunications infrastructure. Huawei is, for all intents and purposes, an extension of Chinese intelligence.

Research Reports

Cybersecurity Workforce: Agencies Need to Accurately Categorize Positions to Effectively Identify Critical Staffing Needs
U.S. Government Accountability Office

The federal government needs a qualified, well-trained cybersecurity workforce to protect vital IT systems. Not having enough of these workers is one reason why securing federal systems is on our High Risk list.

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